現代の人生

有田 景

Story-7

Modern Life

Arita Kei

It's the sound of a knock
KNOCK KNOCK

コンコン

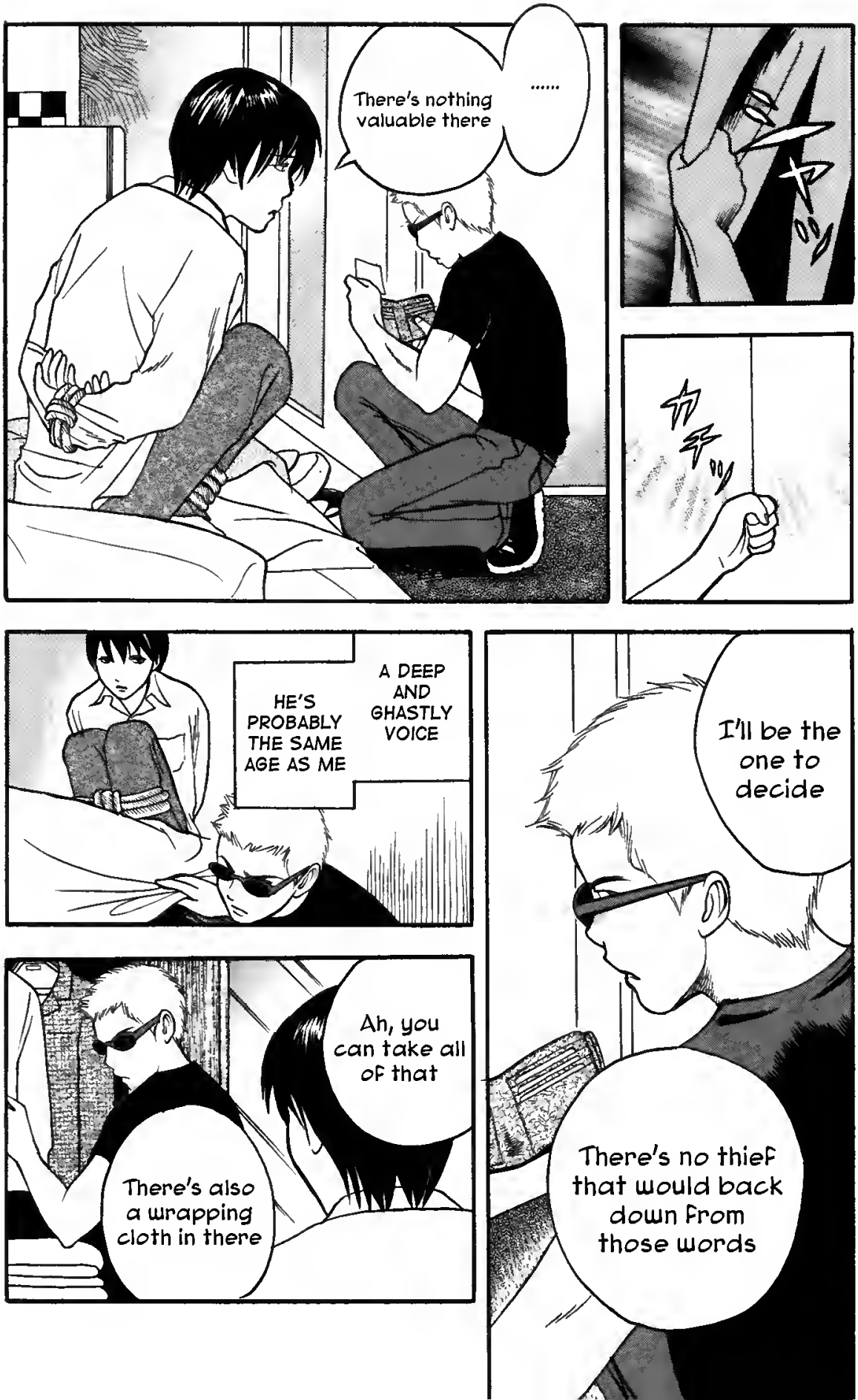
MY NAME IS YAMASHITA TOMOHIKO
I don't want to meet anyone right now...

THAT'S OKAY
DUNNO WHO IT WAS, BUT HE MUST'VE THOUGHT I WASN'T HOME AND LEFT

I CAN'T FALL ASLEEP
I WANTED TO FALL ASLEEP AND FORGET ABOUT MY WORRIES
I WANTED TO PUFF THEM OUT WITH MY SMOKE
SQUEE ZE...
Phoo
Cigarettes don't taste good at times like these...

...?
CLICK
CRACK
CRACK
CRACK
CRACK
カチ
so bright...
No...
I'm alive...
Is he dead?
What the hell is this...
!

ビュッ
but could you please leave me alone...
Who is it?
I do kinda want to die right now...
A knife...!
I'm a thief
Give me all of your valuables
I thought that no one was in here when I broke in
Nothing will happen to you if you don't do anything
Please... hurry up and point that thing elsewhere
I don't want to look at it...
O-... Okay
I'm not in any shape to resist


There's nothing valuable there
.....
HE'S PROBABLY THE SAME AGE AS ME
A DEEP AND GHASTLY VOICE
I'll be the one to decide
There's no thief that would back down from those words
Ah, you can take all of that
There's also a wrapping cloth in there

But like hell I'm going to walk around at night with a bunch of big suits
Those kinds of thieves only exist in manga
I'm in the middle of work, so be quiet
You're being way too cooperative
I don't feel like ever wearing them again
Ah... The suits I bought with loans
They're not worth stealing, huh...
Ama-zing...
Have you always been doing this?
He might have done this many times already
But this man is pretty calm and firm

I've never failed even once
I knock on the doors of apartments that aren't lit
I only break in once I know that there's no one home
I told you to stay quiet
Well, yea...
Well...these events are pretty rare, right?
Have you always been successful?
.....
Doesn't that make you worried?
It's all over for you if you get caught, right?
I see... So you're the one who knocked...
Well, I've been in this situation once or twice
You'll never get anything done if you're afraid of failure

.....
You're the kind of person who broods over things too much
You're right...
...I'm so jealous of your confidence
That can be said for every single job in the world
Isn't that right?
What you need to live in today's world
is a strong nerve, confidence, and action!
What is worrying useful for!?
I want to be like that
I've thought about that many times
I think you can do it!
You think so?
But no one else can change your personality for you
You have to change yourself through your hard work

I've been thinking all day about what I should do about about her
...A girl
It's about a girl
But why are you so down in the dumps?
tch...
You don't have anything valuable at all
What a pitiful man
It's all your personality's fault
You're the kind who gets rejected often, right?
What a horrible woman
Yea. She was so cold to me
She said that I had no future
and no money...

Boring! This is my worst job ever
There's also a pawn ticket in the desk
That's everything valuable I have...
haha...
...I have a fountain pen in my pocket
It's a golden pen
This isn't worth anything...
Throw away the photo
Ah, I forgot
That's made out of silver. You can take it
Yeah... I know all about that
I see, so this is woman in question
She really seems like a cold woman

but I use the money I get however I want!
.....
I push my brains and brawns to the limit
every single day of my life,
Then I...
ah
You're really a pathetic man
I've told you
There's no use in worrying about the past
I have a question
Does that mean that I should ignore my conscience?
There's also no point in thinking about tomorrow
No one knows what will happen tomorrow
Try changing your way of thinking
You can't have a second try at something you've done

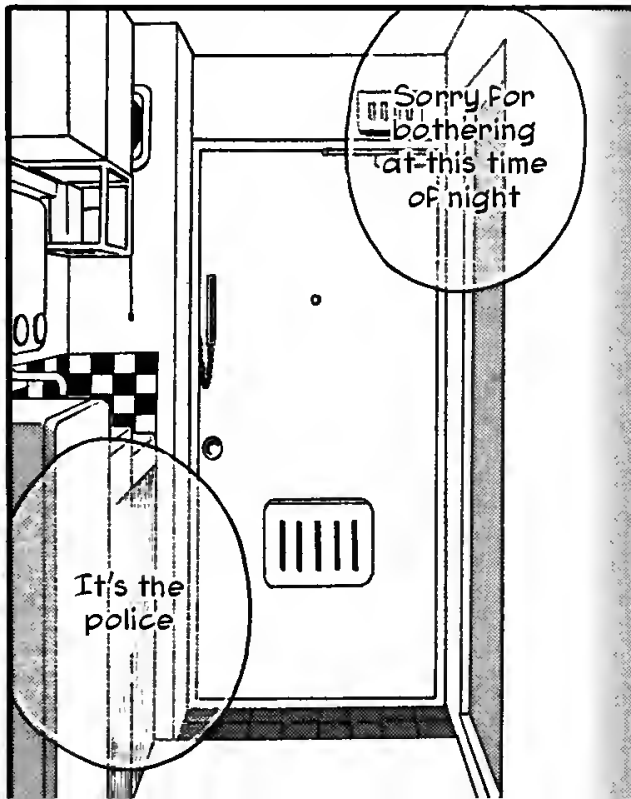
That's why you should live today to the fullest
Enjoy life with no regrets!
ガシャーン!
Isn't that all there is to modern life?
I...
I see... You're right
I feel like a burden has been lifted from my shoulders
I'll live just like you from now on
I don't know where I'd be if I hadn't met you
HEY HEY
Thank goodness you broke in...!
KNOCK KNOCK
hey...

KNOCK
KNOCK

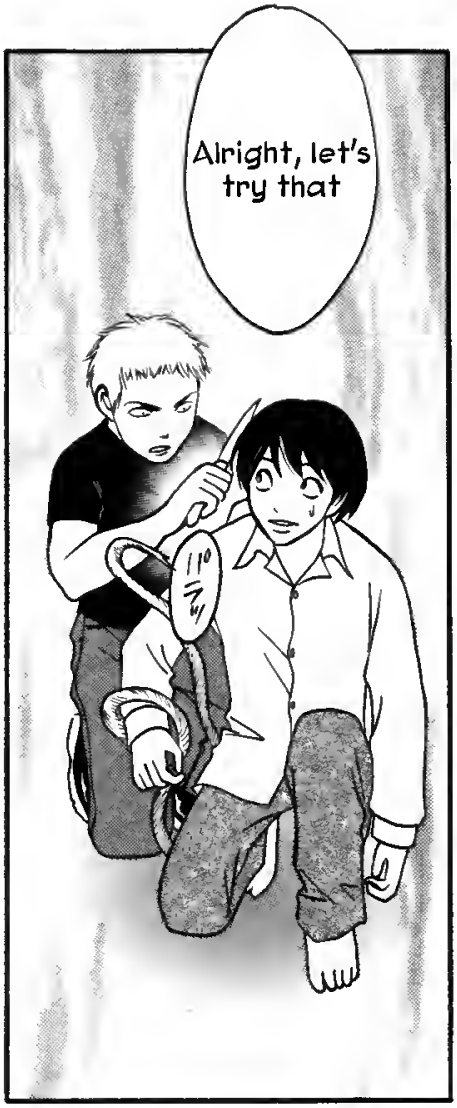
Hello,
what is it?

Ahhh
Don't say
anything
Funny

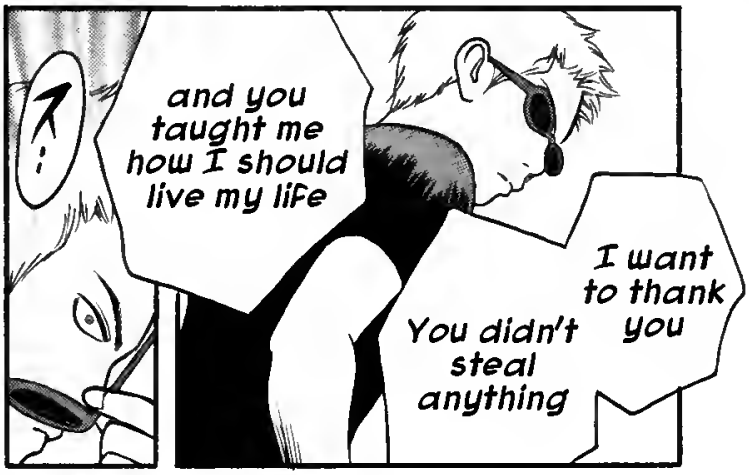
Who is
that!?
Dunno
Quick,
reply


Sorry for
bothering
at this time
of night
It's the
police

Did you call them?
There's no silent alarm here either
There's no way I could've done that here
Damn
There's no way out...
Why don't you go hide in that closet?
I'll trick them for you
Don't joke... They won't fall for that
I'd just be a sitting duck for the police
Alright, I'm not going to take this sitting down
I'll put up a fight and get out
Ah... Then how about this?


Alright, let's try that

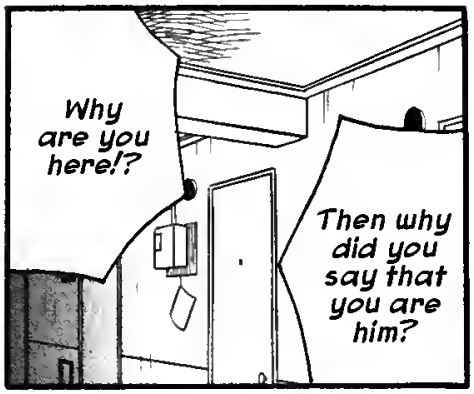
You'll open the door and leave...as Yamashita Tomohiko
I'll go in the closet


and you taught me how I should live my life
You didn't steal anything
I want to thank you

If you don't open up, we'll open the door by force
Okay, I'm coming

This is the apartment of Mr. Yamashita Tomohiko, right?
ガチャ…
Thank you for your hard work this late at night
Yes, that's who I am
As you can see, I'm fine
...
Were you patrolling for a thief?
hahaha
Damn, it didn't work, huh...
You know this woman, right?
ナっ
Playing dumb won't work
You're coming with us

Yamashita Tomohiko! You are under arrest for suspected murder
The woman that you've been stalking
We found her body by the beach


Why are you here!?
Then why did you say that you are him?

First of all, I'm not Yamashita Tomohiko
What, murder?
I didn't do such a thing!

Wait... Let me go!

Well...
We'll hear what you have to say in the station

Uwahhh
No way---
Come on!
That's the murder weapon
She died from knife wounds, after all
カチャ!
I was brooding over whether I should turn myself in or not
That's right... She was cold towards me, so I snapped and killed her
I should thank that guy...

I'll live the life I have right now to the fullest!
Lamenting over the past won't do anything
Worrying about the future is pointless
I feel like things will work out somehow
It's only a matter of time until they find out that I'm the real killer
I'll run and enjoy life for as long as I can
This is modern life!
Modern Life / End